Application No. 10/696,785 Amendment Dated 6 December 2004 Reply to Office Action of 7 September 2004

Remarks/Arguments

The Examiner has rejected claims 1 - 4 and 7 - 13 under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by US Patent No. 5,553,575 to Beck et al. However, the Examiner has indicated that claims 5 - 6 and 14 - 15 contain allowable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, claim 1 has now been amended to include the subject matter of claim 5 and claims 5 and 6 have been cancelled. The language of claim 6 has been combined with the language of claim 1 to create new claim 16. New claims 17 - 28 have also been added.

In conclusion, it is believed that this application is in condition for allowance, and such allowance is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe that a telephonic conference would be useful in furthering the present application toward allowance, the undersigned attorney would welcome such a call.

Any fees or charges due as a result of filing of the present paper may be charged against Deposit Account 04-0525. Two duplicates of this page are enclosed.

Respectfully,

Attorney for Applicant(s)

W. Michael Dixon
Reg. No. 37,815
Patent Department
Deere & Company
One John Deere Place
Moline, IL 61265
Telephone No. (30

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Mail Stop Amenamen

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on: Ob December 2004

Deere & Company

THE MULL

O CLOCK